

MINUTES
FOR THE FIELD TRIP OF THE
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DATE: August 22, 2000
TIME: 1:00 pm
PLACE: Lalakea Ditch Reservoir and Hiilawe Falls
Hamakua, Hawaii

The Commission on Water Resource Management met at Tex Drive In.

The following were in attendance:

MEMBERS: Mr. Timothy Johns, Dr. Bruce Anderson, Mr. Robert Girald,
Mr. Brian Nishida

STAFF: Mr. Roy Hardy, Mr. Ed Sakoda

COUNSEL: Mr. Edsel Yamada

OTHERS: Bob Rosehill (Kamehameha Schools), Lawrence Balberde (KS
lessee), Al Castro (Governor's Office), Dudley Kubo (NRCS),
Brian Kau (DOA), Gary Kam (NRCS), Carol Kawachi (NRCS),
Doug Toews (NRCS)

The group drove to the Lalakea Ditch Reservoir at the end of the Lalakea Ditch. Lawrence Balberde, lessee, described the work he has been doing to improve the ditch system, construct the aquaculture ponds and taro loi, and measure the ditch flow. He shared his plans for the future for the project, to provide opportunities for economic development, especially for troubled youth.

The group, minus Mssrs. Balberde and Rosehill, then drove down into Waipio Valley and hiked to the abandoned teahouse near Hiilawe Falls. Facing the twin falls, Hiilawe Falls, on the right side, was flowing from the top to the bottom. On the left side, Lalakea Falls was dry from the top to about halfway down the falls, where the Lower Hamakua Ditch (LHD) intersects the falls. The leakage from the LHD causes Lalakea Falls to flow from halfway down the falls to the bottom.

The group hiked back to the vehicles then returned to Tex Drive In where the field trip ended at about 5:00 pm.

Minutes

August 22, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

EDWIN T. SAKODA

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

LINNEL T. NISHIOKA
Deputy Director